

Message Text

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FOL REPEAT KHARTOUM 1503 SENT ACTION SECSTATE

INF O BRUSSELS JUNE 04

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KHARTOUM 1503

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, SU

SUBJ: BSO TERRORIST CASE

REF: KHARTOUM 1502

1. EMBOFF HAS NOW RETURNED FROM FONMINISTRY WITH FOLLOWING
STATEMENT WHICH WAS APPARENTLY ISSUED BY GOS SHORT TIME AGO.

2. QUOTE. THE MAJOR COURT HAS TODAY PRONOUNCED ITS JUDGMENT
AGAINST THE ACCUSED IN THE CASE OF THE SAUDI ARABIAN EMBASSY'S
INCIDENT IN KHARTOUM ON 1ST MARCH 1973.

THE COURT FOUND ALL THE ACCUSED GUILTY AND SENTENCED THEM
TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT. THE SENTENCE WAS LATER CONFIRMED BY THE
HIGH COURT WHO RECOMMENDED TO THE PRESIDENT THE REMISSION OF
SENTENCE FOR THE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CASE. WITH A
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VIEW TO THOSE CONSIDERATIONS AND THE SUFFERINGS OF THE CONVICTED

AND THAT OF THEIR FAMILIES AND RELATIVES CAUSED BY THE BARBARIC ISRAELI AGGRESSION WHICH RESULTED IN THE ASSASSINATION OF SOME HIGH RANKING PALESTINIAN LEADERS IN BEIRUT AND IN THE DEATH OF TENS OF INNOCENT CHILDREN AND WOMEN LIVING IN REFUGEE CAMPS IN SOUTHERNLEBANON AND THE PERSISTENT ISRAELI PERSECUTION OF PALESTINIANS EVERYWHERE, AND IN ORDER TO SUSTAIN THE GENUINE EFFORTS RECENTLY MADE TO MAINTAIN PEACE IN THE REGION AND THE WORLD AT LARGE, THE PRESIDENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE SUDAN HAS DECIDED TO COMMUTE THE LIFE SENTENCE TO SEVEN YEARS OF IMPRISONMENT. THE CONVICTS HAVE ALREADY SPENT SIXTEEN MONTHS IN CUSTODY PENDING THEIR TRIAL.

THE EIGHT CONDEMNED PERSONS WILL BE HANDED OVER TO THE PALESTINIAN LIBERATION ORGANIZATION TO EXECUTE THE SENTENCE PASSED AGAINST THEM, BEING THE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE.

THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE SUDAN HOPES TO SEE SOON A NEW EERA THAT DOES NOT FORCE THE OPPRESSED TO RESORT TO VIOLENCE IN ORDER TO REGAIN THE RIGHTS. OBVIOUSLY THIS IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE WORLD AT LARGE. END QUOTE.

3. COMMENT. KHARTOUM 1501 INDICATED HIGH COURT ALREADY REVIEWING THIS MORNING'S JUDGMENT BUT UNEXAMPLED SPEED WITH WHICH GOS APPEARS HAVE DISPOSED OF CASE IS UNEXPECTED. MY EFFORTS SEBC FONMIN KHALID SO FAR UNAVAILING THOUGH HE BRIEFLY IN HIS OFFICE THIS EVEING. I TOLD FONMINISTRY OFFICIAL I WOULD RELUCTANTLY REPORT THAT KHALID REFUSING TO SEE ME BUT CHIEF PROTOCOL HAS JUST PHONED TO STATE HE WILL SEEK FIND HIM BUT BELIEVES HIM "UNAVAILABLE". CHIEF PROTOCOL DID TELL ME NEW MINSTATE FONAFFS AMBASSADOR JAMAL MOHAMMED AHMED WISHES ME CALL AT 0900 JUNE 25. SINCE IT APPEARS GOS DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN, EVEN THOUGH BSO PRISONERS MAY NOT YET HAVE LEFT COUNTRY, REQUEST IMMEDIATE GUIDANCE RE LINE I SHOULD TAKE WITH AHMED OR FONMIN IF I AM ABLE SEE HIM. RESPONSE SHOULD BE SLUGGED NIACT.

4. WE CONTINUING CONCERT CLOSELY WITH BELGIAN CHARGE WHO REPORTING SEPARATELY TO HIS GOVERNMENT BUT I BELIEVE ANY DEMARCHES WE MAY BE INSTRUCTED MAKE HERE PREFERABLE IF DONE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SEPARATELY.
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